

appointed this day to be  
held as our annual Thanksgiving day, and the  
Government of our Republic states, having conferred  
and enjoined the same, this is our Son England  
to be kept accordingly by every son  
& daughter of the land.

We have surmounted in this matter; the President  
not being with us, - has chosen the  
wrong day. We all came upon sleeping  
Thanksgiving at our own homes, with  
our kindred, upon the land - honored  
moment. But we will regret, for the  
moment, our disappointment, as best we  
may; - and sing, as well as we can, the Thank-  
sgiving songs of our own land given in our  
side, looking on the deep. It is meet that,  
tho' absent in body, we should unite in spirit  
with our friends and dear ones at home, who,  
we well know, with affectionately, thinking of us,  
and we, ourselves, I need not say, have our special  
reasons for gratitude, and which it is right  
and comely to give expression to in thanksgiving  
& praise to thoughtfully. This we can do  
under whatever circumstances.

But there is another element in Thanksgiving.  
Later in the day our friends will be remembering us - we fondly think, will be missing us  
at the festive board. Here we are at obvious  
disadvantage. But, thanks to the excellent  
Captain and Steward of our ship, under whose  
auspices we assemble, our table will be  
bounteously spread; and, if we miss some  
of the dishes deemed so essential in a Thank-  
sgiving dinner, their very absence may serve  
to bring us more, more in spirit to the harbor  
where we would be, and make our long journey to

- perhaps a better way - the fact is that many have kept from  
returning children.

We are here asked to serve as you.

Chaplain to-day, and I will accordingly  
read a selection from the progress &  
lessons of the show. Some of these  
and some original contributions will be  
added - thus combining the advantages  
of set forms, hallowed by long use,  
with the free expression of our individual  
feelings.

We will commence our worship by  
singing - to its appropriate time - the  
old version of the 100 Psalm.

With us cannot hit all the cards.

Thanksgiving at Sea. Nov. 21st.